

TRAINING SCHOOLS

FOR NURSES

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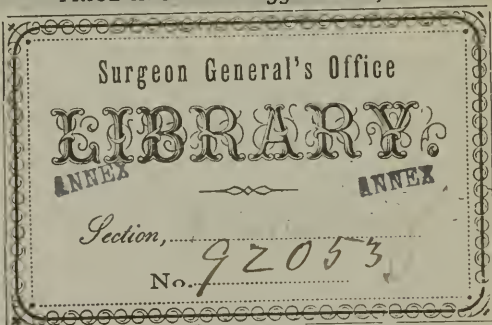
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# TRAINING-SCHOOLS FOR NURSES

WITH

NOTES ON TWENTY-TWO SCHOOLS

BY

W. G. THOMPSON, M.D.



NEW YORK

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

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1883

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# TRAINING-SCHOOLS FOR NURSES.

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## INTRODUCTION.

DURING the past few years, a new field for the employment of intelligent women has been developed in the higher education of nurses for the sick.

This movement is rapidly spreading among the larger cities throughout the country; and it may be traced in part to the growing demand for offering women of the better classes increased facilities for self-support, but chiefly to recent advances in medical and surgical practice, which require nearer care and closer observation of the sick than untrained helpers can give.

To supply these needs, the so-called "training-schools for nurses" have been established in connection with certain of the larger general hospitals; and although the various schools differ slightly in details of government, they are all operated upon essentially the same system, seek to attain the same ends, and they are entirely free from any religious bias and from the characteristics of orders and sisterhoods.

These schools are intended primarily to benefit hospital-patients, and then to furnish accomplished nurses to private families, and to supply hospitals, infirmaries, dispensaries, and asylums, where no training-schools exist, with competent head nurses and matrons.

### NURSING SYSTEMS IN EUROPE.

Throughout the greater part of Europe, religious orders have almost a monopoly of nursing.

This system has the evident disadvantage, that the sisters are responsible to superiors of their own order, and frequently do not recognize the secular authority of the institution in which they labor; yet they accomplish a great deal in nursing the sick poor outside of hospitals.

Among the nurses not connected with religious orders, midwifery is almost the only branch of nursing which receives due attention.

In Russia the Crimea gave a stimulus to nursing; and an order of Sisters of Mercy was instituted, soon after that war, which does very good work.

In Italy very little advance has been made until recently. In January, 1883, three graduates from the training-school at Bellevue Hospital, re-enforced by two English nurses, went to Rome, and introduced there the new system of nursing in a hospital just now established for English and American travellers.

In France the nursing is chiefly under Roman-Catholic direction; and in Paris alone, are some six hundred sisters who oversee the hired attendants in the wards of the various hospitals.

In Germany almost every nursing-system obtains; and as a result of the Franco-Prussian war, and of the efforts of the "International Hospital and Field Service Society of Surgeons and Nurses," great progress was made in caring for the sick and wounded.

As long ago as 1836, Pastor Theodor Fliedner founded the famous "Institute of Deaconesses" at Kaiserwerth, which served as the model of numerous kindred institutions throughout Germany; and it was here that Miss Nightingale some years afterwards completed her early instruction, and added to her enthusiasm for waiting on the sick. Although these schools do not furnish so thorough and practical instruction as is given in the training-schools of to-day, they have now upwards of three thousand deaconesses connected with them, who make most faithful nurses. There are also many Sisters of Charity in Germany who undertake nursing; but the most prominent secular school is found in Berlin, at the "Kaiserin Augusta Hospital," where lectures on nursing are combined with practical instruction. Many ladies attend there, and attain a proficiency in nursing which is not to be excelled in this country.

In Dresden, as an outgrowth of Prussia's two last wars,

the "Albert Verein" was established under the immediate patronage of the Queen of Saxony. The nurses of this organization are instructed for two years at an asylum and at a convalescent-house in Dresden; and they then spend a third year in Leipzig, attending lectures and practical demonstrations. The course is extremely thorough. Presents and indulgences are granted for merit; and if after three years the nurses are invalided in consequence of their duties, they are pensioned. In active service they are paid from twelve to twenty-four marks a month. They are sent out by the Directorate to nurse in private families, at from three to four and a half marks a day, and to nurse the poor gratuitously. Hospitals are nursed by contract with the association.

In England, for over thirty years, the problem of training nurses has been under discussion and experiment.

In London Mrs. Elizabeth Fry used to teach nurses at Guy's Hospital, many years before an organized training-school was established there in November, 1879.

The nursing at King's College Hospital, the University College Hospital, and at Charing Cross Hospital, is under the charge of the religious orders of St. John and of All Saints; and it is very satisfactorily performed. The Order of St. John sent a number of nurses to the Crimea with Miss Nightingale.

In June, 1860, a training-school was opened at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, governed by the principles



formulated by Miss Nightingale, and founded through her generosity. This school has given great satisfaction to the medical and surgical staff of the hospital. The New-York State Charities Aid Association studied its organization through the reports of Dr. Wylie, who volunteered to go over from New York especially to investigate the operation of the school; and it has served as a model for the training-school at Bellevue Hospital, and for many other schools in this country.

There is a new training-school for nurses at the Westminster Hospital, London, which is very successful.

In 1861 a "Training-School and House for Nurses" was founded in Liverpool for district and private nursing; and Miss Agnes Jones brought about radical changes afterwards in the nursing at the Liverpool workhouse.

In Dublin, there were two schools for nurses as early as 1866. There is also a new school at the Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

In 1867 a successful school was established at the Sydney Infirmary in New South Wales.

#### EARLY NURSING IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the United States, as far back as the close of the seventeenth century, Dr. Valentine Seaman gave systematic instruction to a class of two dozen nurses of the New-York Hospital. His course consisted of twenty-six lectures, chiefly

upon midwifery, but including anatomy, physiology, and the care of children. A manikin was employed in demonstration. Among the topics of these lectures are digestion, absorption, and secretion, the circulation, organs of special sense, etc. In the year 1800 a synopsis of these lectures, with full reports of several of them, was published in New York.

The Society of Friends of Philadelphia started a "Nurse Society" in 1838, by which they aimed to improve the standard of nursing, and to relieve the Catholic societies from doing all the work alone.

The Philadelphia Lying-in Charity has instructed nurses in its special branch for nearly forty years.

St. Luke's Hospital, New York, has been supplied, since its foundation in 1853, with nurses of the Protestant-Episcopal Order of the Holy Communion.

Various Lutheran charitable societies throughout the country have trained nurses from time to time; and some two thousand of these nurses were actively employed, among others, during the Rebellion. And in this connection the nurses of the Sanitary Commission, and the efforts of Miss Clara Barton in relation with the American Association of the Red Cross, must always be applauded.

An excellent Protestant-Episcopal sisterhood has had charge of the nursing of the patients at the House and Hospital of the Good Shepherd for seven years past, at

Syracuse, N.Y. Trained deaconesses are sent out to nurse in private families, among the poor, and in various institutions.

Similar orders throughout the country are productive of great good.

In 1873 three training-schools were almost simultaneously established in New York, New Haven, and Boston; and from this year dates the special impetus which has been given to the improvement of nursing in the United States.

The public are realizing that nurses are made, not born; that is to say, natural aptitude for nursing must be supplemented by thorough training. It is strange that the instruction of male orderlies in large hospitals has never received a similar amount of consideration.

### THE OLD SYSTEM.

Under the old system, which is still in vogue in some of the hospitals in this country, the complement of nurses was in great part made up from women of the capacity and attainments of the average housemaid; and their ranks were not infrequently recruited from women who came into the wards originally to wield the mop and scrubbing-brush, and who, having learned somewhat of ward ways and ward manners, were promoted to be nurses; and such persons were occasionally placed in charge of very serious cases, having had little or no experience or instruction for their

guidance. Sometimes the nurses were taken from among the convalescent patients of the humbler classes ; and so few inducements were offered to women of the education and refinement of ladies to enter the service, that it was the exception rather than the rule to find them. In some metropolitan hospitals, the memory is still fresh of a system under which important orders given for patients were sometimes disobeyed through ignorance, indifference, or dishonesty, and under which patients were sometimes roughly handled and shamefully neglected, while the alcoholic stimulants ordered for them were pretty thoroughly “sampled,” and reached them only in a state of homœopathic dilution.

In large hospitals a great many valuable facts may be obtained from comparison of symptoms in different series of cases. Physicians are daily seeking to attain greater accuracy in these observations which are to be of ultimate benefit to every one ; and they may be very greatly aided by intelligent and conscientious nurses who will fulfil their orders to the letter, keep thorough discipline in the wards, and who can be trusted to note a great many important symptoms in the absence of the physician, — for instance, to use correctly the clinical thermometer, and record variations in the pulse and respiration at regular intervals, watch for the effect of remedies, etc.

## THE NEW SYSTEM.

Training-schools for nurses will be seen to possess several main advantages. First, they benefit the patients by remedying defects existing under the old system, by employing a more carefully selected class of women.

Secondly, they aid the physicians, in assisting them to carry out plans of treatment which could not otherwise be so readily and beneficially adopted.

Thirdly, they afford praiseworthy employment to some of that large class of young women, who, having good character and education, are through misfortune and pecuniary embarrassment thrown entirely upon their individual resources for their own support, and possibly that of their relatives. It is a much-vexed question for such women to find desirable and remunerative occupation; and, as new avenues are opened to them, their numbers seem only to increase.

For such as have the love for it, and the courage and physical qualifications for endurance, there is here presented a new and comparatively unoccupied field in which there is opportunity for abundant good, and in which they can earn fair support, and be at the same time quite independent; for they are not to be regarded as mere servants, but rather as forming a class by themselves.

Fourthly, private families in employing graduates of these schools have the guaranty that they are engaging nurses who have had a large experience under competent instructors.

## OPPOSITION TO THE NEW SYSTEM.

The proposition to establish training-schools in connection with large hospitals met at first with considerable opposition, and a number of objections were presented as insuperable.

It was objected, that the old nurses were good enough. Of course, the best hospitals always have been training nurses who worked in their wards, and kept their eyes open ; and certainly some of them were most admirable and faithful women : other some were not so trustworthy, and were suggestive of the patterns of “Mrs. Gamp” and “Mrs. Prig.” They had very little systematic teaching, and were totally ignorant of many things which a first-class nurse ought to know.

It was objected, that the new nurses would be “over-taught ;” that they would soon think they knew full as much as or more than the doctors ; that they would form too decided opinions of their own, and be indiscreet in talking of them to the patients. It was objected, that they would actually try to study medicine while disguised in nurses’ caps ! Now, several lamentable collisions have recently occurred in England, between doctors and the new nurses ; but they have been due rather to the officiousness of one or two individuals than to the pupils in general. For instance, in 1880 a feud arose at the new training-school at Guy’s Hospital, London, where several over-zealous disciples of “Sister Dora” undertook to practise the principles of that chimerical saint,

who neither hesitated to call the doctors to her room to be seolded, nor to interfere with a surgical procedure which did not suit her fancy. Fortunately for the patients, and fortunately indeed for the new system, this style of "nursing" was promptly suppressed in a manner not likely to encourage its re-adoption. Certainly the prevailing opinion among the graduates of the schools in this country is, that good nursing is in itself a sufficiently broad work to command all their energies, and that there is always something left for them to learn in it without stepping in any way outside of their prescribed course.

If women think they must study medicine, they have their own colleges for the purpose; and such persons are carefully excluded from the training-schools.

It was further objected, that the schools would be an unnecessary encumbrance and additional expense to hospitals, and that the whole movement was merely an attempt to introduce æstheticism into nursing, and that sentiment would tend to take the lead of judgment. "The *esprit de corps* should be that of the hospital, not that of a separate educational body."

Then it was objected, that, as soon as the better class of women acquired a fair experience, they would be attracted elsewhere by higher wages, and leave the hospitals worse off than before; and that as fast as they were educated in scientific nursing, they would lose interest, and consequently lose

efficiency, in performing monotonous details and menial duties. It was objected, that it is not the function of a hospital to train nurses for the community at large.

It was objected, that, the organization of the training-school being more complicated than the old systems, it would cause a great deal of trouble to maintain it; and that there would be a dangerous and fatal attempt to establish nursing as a separate department of science, instead of keeping it in absolute subordination as it undoubtedly should be.

But one after the other these objections have been abandoned or overcome, and one after the other the training-schools have been established, until now their more enthusiastic advocates claim that "every general hospital should have a well-organized training-school for nurses as a part of its system of management. This is a duty which it owes to itself and to the community. A hospital is a school for nurses in the very nature of its service."

#### PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES.

The schools thus far have had many problems of management to solve: for example, in the relations between the medical staff and the nurses, between the nurses and the orderlies; the youthfulness of many of the applicants; the matter of changing nurses too rapidly from ward to ward, in an endeavor to give equal opportunities to all; in sending away the more proficient nurses, to make room for



new classes every few months; in the eagerness that so many display for the excitement of operative surgery and of extreme cases of disease, to the detriment of the less critical cases; and in many trivial questions of etiquette and precedence which were quite foreign to the older systems.

Perhaps, indeed, the ideal training-school can never be established until the diversities of human character are more nearly conformable to ideal standards.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE AMERICAN SCHOOLS.

In some cases the government of the training-schools is vested in the hospital authorities themselves; while in others a separately incorporated society has the entire control, and merely co-operates with the hospital trustees.

There are now twenty-two of these schools in sixteen different cities, employing about one hundred and fifty different instructors. There are already over one thousand graduates; and nine of the schools have independent buildings for the nurses to occupy when not on duty, while the remainder have apartments in more or less direct connection with the hospitals themselves.

The course of instruction, which is similar in all the schools, extends over a period from one to two years (in the great majority, for two years); and nurses entering upon it must bind themselves to remain connected with the school for that period.

During the second year of the course, the nurses are in most schools allowed to be employed by private families ; but while so serving they must conform to the dress and regulations of the school, and the money which they thus earn above their prescribed allowance is to be paid to the treasurer for the support of the school. The usual charge for such a nurse is three dollars a day, or from sixteen to twenty dollars a week. Travelling expenses, with board, lodging, and washing, are, of course, to be furnished by the employer. A blank form is subsequently filled out by the employer, with a statement regarding the conduct and efficiency of the nurse.

The women who attend these schools come for the most part from rural towns in New England and the Middle and Central States ; and they are frequently the daughters of very excellent families. Some of them have been already employed as book-keepers, teachers, seamstresses, etc. ; while many have not previously found it necessary to work for their livelihood. Women whose husbands are living are not received. At one of the largest and most thorough training-schools, — that of the New-York Hospital, — less than two-thirds of all the nurses graduated had been obliged to work for their own support previous to entering the school ; and this proportion is diminishing, so that in the class just entered, in the spring of 1883, only one-fourth had previously earned their own livelihood.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION.

The limit of age is usually between twenty-five and thirty-five years ; although at one or two schools pupils as young as twenty years are admitted, and at another forty-five years is the extreme limit. But there is an unfortunate tendency, at several of the schools, for too many youthful applicants to be received.

The good condition of the pupils, both moral and physical, must be certified by satisfactory references ; for, while in the wards, they must show no favoritism, accept no bribes offered by patients to obtain partiality, and command the respect of their patients by maintaining good order and discipline. And moreover, they must see clearly, not to confound medicines ; they must hear well, if a patient cannot speak above a whisper ; and they will have need of strong backs and sound lungs ; and a reasonable standard of weight and height is required.

The catalogue of virtues expected, as enumerated in the programmes of some schools, is indeed overwhelming : “ Nurses are required to be sober, honest, truthful, trustworthy, punctual, quiet, orderly, gentle but firm, cleanly and neat, patient, cheerful, and kindly.”

The health of the nurses in the different schools depends largely upon their having a separate house, where they are always in much better health than when obliged to sleep in the hospital buildings. As a rule, the pupils from free out-

door country life find the hardest strain ; but the percentage who break down from ill health during the course is quite small.

The applicants must give evidence of at least a thorough common-school education, and of quickness and intelligence. This done, they are admitted for a month on "probation." During their entire course, they are boarded and lodged, and have washing done free of charge, but in no case do they receive any money until after their probation ; when, if they have proved themselves competent (which is at the discretion of the principal or superintendent to decide), they assume the uniform of the school, and are allowed to remain as "junior nurses" for several months. They are next promoted to be "senior nurses," and at length they become "head nurses" of a ward.

During the entire course, they have recitations and occasional examinations with their principal ; and they are formally examined at the end of their course, by a committee of the visiting medical staff of the hospital ; and, if they offer satisfactory evidence of proficiency, they receive a diploma, and in some schools a gold badge or brooch appropriately engraved with the name of the hospital and year of their class. (The public before employing trained nurses are requested to ask to see their diplomas in every case, to prevent fraud.) They are thus graduated ; and afterwards, in cases where the term of service is only eighteen months, if there is

need for them at the hospital, they may be required to remain for six months longer. After this they are at liberty to seek employment in private families, or where they may choose.

#### COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

During their course of training, the pupils attend didactic lectures from the medical officers connected with the hospital, and receive instruction from the principal of the school and from the head nurses; and all practical points are abundantly illustrated at the bedside, as opportunity affords. They receive lectures upon ventilation, the use of disinfectants and private hygiene, medical and surgical emergencies, proper diet for the sick, the observation and recording of important symptoms which may arise in the interval between the physicians' visits, — such for example as convulsion, coma, delirium, chills, sweating, expectoration, first appearance of eruptions, etc.

They are drilled in the proper application of cups, blisters, leeches, poultices, stupes, etc.; in the administration of sponge and hot-air baths to patients in bed; changing bed-clothes without raising the patient; the employment of enemata and douches; use of catheter; management of appliances for uterine complaints, trusses, etc.; and control of sudden hemorrhage. They are required to assist at surgical operations. They are taught the methods of chemically ex-

amining the urine, and how to record variations in the pulse, respiration, and temperature. They are instructed in massage, in simpler forms of bandaging, padding splints, rolling bandages, preparing plaster-of-Paris bandages, the application of minor surgical dressings, the avoidance and care of bed-sores, cleaning utensils, and proper manner of giving the medicines ordered, including the method of hypodermic injection. They are taught to observe sleep, the appetite, thirst, and the effect of diets and medicines, and how to manage convalescents, and to keep written records of cases. In most of the schools they are taught how to cook delicacies, and prepare drinks, for the sick. In hospitals having a maternity service, they are instructed in the management of parturient women, and the care of the new-born. In addition to the foregoing, they also receive elementary instruction from lectures by the physicians and surgeons on anatomy and physiology, fractures, nursing special cases, such as pneumonia, renal and cardiac diseases, contagious and infectious diseases, etc.

#### WARD WORK.

The details of ward work, of course, vary in different institutions; but the following are those which obtain at several of the principal schools.

The head nurse of a ward presides over between twenty and thirty patients, and has full authority over them, subject

to the doctor's orders; that is, she is expected to prevent loud talking or unseemly behavior, and see that the patients accept the treatment prescribed. She is assisted by a senior and junior nurse, and in each male ward by an orderly. Her first duty on entering her ward in the morning should be to receive a report from the night-nurse regarding the condition of her patients, and any changes in the orders for them. An hour is then devoted to adjusting the patients' beds; and the head nurse gives her special attention to those cases considered most serious, and sees that her assistants are taught the best way of making a convalescent's bed, etc. She will then see that the regular morning orders are carried out, and prepare a list of the necessary standard ward supplies, to await the doctor's signature; after which it is sent to the apothecary. Meanwhile her senior assistant records the pulse, respiration, and temperature of the patients; and the junior superintends the serving of their breakfasts. After the ward is arranged for the day, the nurses accompany the house-staff upon their morning rounds, and stand ready to wait upon them at each bedside. Then there are new orders to be fulfilled: new patients arrive, or old ones are discharged, and their clothing and the ward-linen must be cared for. The nurses have further to assist at operations, and attend at the dressing of wounds, etc. The head nurse must be prepared to give to the doctor an accurate account of each patient's condition since his last visit; and she is

reponsible to him for the faithful execution of his orders, by either herself or her assistants as she may choose. Each nurse, during her training, serves in the medical, surgical, gynecological, and children's wards, and during some portion of her time is put upon night-duty; but this latter is not until she has had at least three months' experience. If the night-work is light, she is not prohibited from reading or sewing. Each nurse also has experience in the operation-theatre, the reception-wards, and out-patient department; and serves a part of her time upon special duty with very serious cases. The aim is, so far as possible, to give to all equal opportunities. The day-nurses are usually on duty from seven A.M. to seven P.M. In addition to the time allotted for meals, each nurse has an hour at some time during the afternoon for rest or recreation; and she is allowed the afternoon of one week-day for herself, besides half of Sunday, when the work is not too pressing. A vacation of two weeks is allowed during each year. Her evenings she may spend as she pleases, excepting an occasional hour reserved for lectures; and she is at liberty to receive friends until ten o'clock, or to go out until that hour or later, with the sanction of the principal. Each nurse, after her month of probation, is required to wear a plain uniform of a dress of gingham, of seersucker pattern, worn summer and winter; large, plain white apron, muslin cap, and linen collar and cuffs. Jewelry and ribbons, while not absolutely prohibited, are ex-



pected to be worn in moderation only. If taken ill during their service, nurses are cared for in their private rooms gratuitously.

A monthly allowance is granted each pupil for her uniform, etc., of from five to sixteen dollars, in accordance with the time she has served. Pupils are usually graduated twice a year, but they may be admitted at any time.

The direction of the school, the admission of probationers, etc., is under the immediate supervision of a lady, the principal or superintendent, who co-operates with the superintendent of the hospital, and with an advisory committee of the managers of the school.

Once graduated, the trained nurses are almost immediately sure of employment in private families, at salaries of from sixteen to twenty dollars a week; and thus far the demand is everywhere far in excess of the supply. One important benefit already felt from the older of these schools is the fact, that they have been able to furnish a number of matrons and head nurses to other hospitals and infirmaries all over the country, who are selected from more capable graduates, and who command very fair salaries. There is a growing interest felt by the medical profession in the system of training nurses; and in many instances physicians and surgeons apply in person at the schools, to engage the graduate nurses whom they now consider indispensable for serious cases.



NOTES ON TWENTY-TWO DIFFERENT SCHOOLS.



## NOTES ON TWENTY-TWO DIFFERENT SCHOOLS.

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*The "Nurse Training-School of the Woman's Hospital," Philadelphia, Penn.* — The Woman's Hospital is under the management of a board of twenty-four ladies, eleven of whom constitute a training-school committee. A nurse-fund has been established by donations, and a subscription of sixty dollars constitutes a scholarship for the education of one nurse. This school was organized in 1863, two years after the hospital was chartered; and it was further endowed in 1872. The course of training covers a period of two years, and includes the nursing of a variety of medical and surgical patients, amounting to about three hundred in the year; less than one-quarter being confinement cases. In addition to this service, arrangements have been made for the nurses to spend two months each at Blockley and the Pennsylvania Hospitals.

In 1882 the class was double its previous size, and nineteen were graduated. There are now (June, 1883) twenty-

nine pupils in the school, and sixteen applicants are waiting for vacancies. The limits of age are between twenty-one and forty-five years, which gives a ten-years greater margin than is customary. The allowances are gradually increased from five dollars to sixteen dollars a month, and in 1882 the salaries paid to nurses aggregated \$2,964. A committee of two physicians constitutes an examining board, and there are six instructors.

Since diplomas were first granted, forty-six nurses have been graduated, and there have been one hundred and seventeen pupils. The first public commencement exercises of this school were held in the new Clinic Hall, on March 14, 1883, when a number of congratulatory addresses were delivered to the graduating class.

*The Training-School for Nurses at the New-England Hospital for Women and Children, Boston, Mass.* — Ever since this hospital was founded, in 1859, it has employed very good nurses, and as many as thirty-two were instructed; but there was no formally organized training-school until September, 1872, after the new hospital-building was first occupied.

Since that date, diplomas have been granted; and the term of service was at first limited to one year, and in 1881 extended to sixteen months. Since the establishment of the school, there have been over three hundred applications for admission, only one-third of which could be granted. Thirty-seven pupils have been graduated. There are upwards of

three hundred and fifty patients treated yearly in the wards of this hospital. Of these less than one-third are labor-cases, the remainder being medical, surgical, and children's diseases. Sixteen pupils do the entire nursing of the hospital. The limits of age are twenty-one and thirty-one years.

Free instruction is given by the Boston Cooking School, and the nurses are taught massage by an expert.

A number of lectures are given during the year. One dollar a week is allowed for the first six months, two dollars a week for the second six months, and three dollars a week for the last four months.

✓ “*The Training-School for Nurses*” at Bellevue Hospital, New York. — This school was planned by the “Bellevue Hospital Visiting Committee” of the “New-York State Charities Aid Association,” in the spring of 1872. Several months were occupied in securing the co-operation of the Medical Board of Bellevue Hospital, and of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, and in arranging preliminary details, so that the school was not opened until May 1, 1873; and on Feb. 5, 1874, a “Training-School Society” was incorporated consisting of —

I. Honorary members, chosen for important services.

II. Benefactors, who present a thousand dollars, and are privileged to nominate two pupils.

III. Patrons, who contribute five hundred dollars, and are privileged to nominate one pupil.

IV. Life-members, who have contributed one hundred dollars and upwards. Of these, there are at present one hundred and seventy-three.

V. Members, whose dues are ten dollars a year; and associate members, whose annual dues are five dollars. Of these members together, there are now two hundred and eighty.

From among these various contributors, a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and a board of thirteen lady managers are chosen, and six committees are selected. Under these again are a lady-superintendent, assistant-superintendent, and housekeeper.

There is a corps of five instructors, who give at least twenty-four lectures during the year, besides the instruction of the superintendent and her assistant. The only religious services connected with the institution are evening prayers, attendance at which is voluntary. The school opened with a subscription fund of nearly twenty-five thousand dollars, which was almost entirely raised within six weeks. There were six nurses at the start, who were allowed the privileges of three wards in the hospital. They were lodged in a small rented building, near the hospital grounds. During the second year one hundred and eighteen women applied for admission, and twenty-nine were accepted as "probationers." This necessitated the rental of a second lodging-house adjoining the first.



In February, 1875, three male surgical and three obstetric wards were added to the service; and since that time the number of wards allotted to the school has gradually been increased.

The full course embraces two years of study; but during their second year nurses are sent out to do private nursing at the rate of three dollars a day or sixteen dollars a week. In 1875 twelve private cases were thus supplied. Towards the close of its fourth year, the school had grown to such an extent that more ample accommodations were required for the nurses; and one of the founders of the school — a lady well known in New York for her charitable deeds — presented a new dormitory to the school.

This building, which is of brick, four stories high, has bedrooms for sixty-four nurses, with a dining-hall, parlor, library, etc. The good health which, as a rule, obtains among the pupils here, is largely attributable to their being able to spend their leisure hours quite apart from hospital surroundings; and they have to go daily out of doors in passing from one building to the other. In its second year, the cost of maintenance of the school was \$12,000. In 1882 it was \$21,615 (or at the rate of \$333 a year for each nurse), of which \$7,759 went for nurses' pay, and about \$11,000 for provisions and the various expenses of maintaining the dormitory.

During 1882 the school was paid by Bellevue Hospital, for

the services of the nurses, \$6,801 ; and in private families \$4,513 more were earned.

In 1880 over \$8,000 were earned in private families ; and this year (1883) a number of nurses have unfortunately had to be withdrawn from a busy hospital service, and sent out to earn higher wages for the school, in order to cover current expenses.

This too frequent changing about of the nurses is certainly a serious drawback in the new system.

In the ten years in which this school has been in operation, one hundred and sixty-eight nurses have been graduated. Of these, one hundred and eleven are occupied in private nursing, three have studied medicine, eleven have married, twenty-four are employed in other hospitals ; of the rest, one has died, some have joined sisterhoods, some are nursing among the poor, and six have given up the occupation for different reasons. The graduating class of 1882 numbered twenty. There are now (July, 1883) sixty-four pupils in the school.

In 1882 there were over seven hundred calls for nurses to go to private families.

The limits of age are at present twenty-five and thirty-five years : originally twenty-one years was the earliest limit. Applicants are received at any season.

The pay is nine dollars a month for the first, and fifteen dollars a month for the second year. A gold badge is given

with the diploma to those who have passed satisfactory examinations.

One of the features of this school was originally intended to be a system of out-door free nursing, among the poor in their homes ; but limited means have prevented much progress in this work.

Several graduates of the school have, however, been employed in free district nursing in New-York City, under the patronage of various dispensaries, of the Society for Ethical Culture, of the Woman's Branch of City Missions, etc. The latter organization, last year, employed five trained nurses from the Bellevue school, who, with two others, made nearly ten thousand visits among twenty-seven hundred cases of illness, distributing garments and nourishment where required.

Handsome tributes have been paid the training-school at Bellevue, not only by the medical board of the hospital, but by other physicians, and by the numerous private patients who have been under the care of the nurses. This school has supplied the superintendents of several other training-schools.

✓ “ *The Connecticut Training-School for Nurses,*” at the *Connecticut State Hospital, New Haven, Conn.* — This school presents several slight points of difference from the others. At the end of the first year, a vacation of one month is enforced ; and afterwards the pupils return, and practise among private families (still under the direction of the superintend-

ent of the school) for five months more, after which they are free. No diplomas are given, but certificates which require periodical renewal. The object of this arrangement is to prolong the interest of the nurses in the school, and to prevent the public from being imposed upon by unqualified nurses.

Special arrangements are made with churches to train women for missionary nurses, in consideration of the payment of five dollars a week. The limits of age are twenty-two years and forty years.

The pupils are allowed two dollars weekly, until the first six months have passed, when they receive fourteen dollars a month. In 1882 they were paid in all \$3,194.

This school was founded through private subscriptions and bequests; and in March, 1882, a three-story brick dormitory was commenced upon the hospital grounds, which was presented to the school Oct. 26, 1882. This building contains sleeping-rooms for thirty-six nurses, and is pleasantly furnished. Among other useful features, it has a disinfecting room for nurses returning from contagious cases. The building and furniture cost \$13,373.

The charge per week for a trained nurse in a private family is only twelve dollars, or fifteen if she is obliged to leave the State. In 1882 two hundred and six applications for nurses were made from outside patients, but only sixty-six of these could be met. There are now (July, 1883)

twenty-three pupils, and last year a class of eleven was graduated.

The course includes a small maternity service, and instruction in a diet-kitchen. A corps of seven instructors give lectures during the year, with elementary demonstrations in physiology and anatomy upon the cadaver. About seven hundred patients are cared for during the year. Quarterly examinations are held in the presence of the executive committee of the school. The school is under the direction of a committee of administration, consisting of about forty members (some of whom are non-resident), and of these, twenty-two constitute a special executive committee. There are a lady superintendent, and assistant superintendent. Since the opening of the school in October, 1873, there have been seventy graduates, nine of whom were widows. From among these graduates, seven have given up nursing (four having married), and two are studying medicine. There have been two hundred "probationers" admitted. The health of the nurses has been excellent, especially since they moved into their new dormitory.

The highest indorsement is given to this school by physicians and the public generally, who are acquainted with its merits.

*"The Boston Training-School for Nurses," at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.* — This school was established toward the close of 1873, although it was not

incorporated as a society until March 17, 1875. The board of directors, twenty-two in number, comprises both ladies and gentlemen. The nurses were obliged to live in the hospital until the spring of 1883, when the trustees of the hospital testified their appreciation of the school by erecting a commodious and cheerful new dormitory upon the hospital grounds, to accommodate all the nurses and the superintendent.

The course of training lasts for two years, and includes a two-months' experience in the Boston Lying-in Hospital.

The hospital has admitted the nurses to one ward after another, until now fifty pupils do the nursing of the entire service. At the close of its fifth year, the school had graduated forty nurses, while one hundred and five had been admitted as pupils.

In 1883 the graduates in all number eighty-nine, and there have been two hundred and twenty-two "probationers." In the previous year, fourteen received diplomas. About one-half of the applicants are admitted, and of these a little less than one-half are graduated, — the remainder failing through a variety of causes.

There have been a number of donations to the school, and a permanent endowment-fund has been started.

The course of lectures given to the nurses here is one of the most elaborate, and includes, in addition to the ordinary topics, such subjects as the care of the dead, autopsies, anæ-

thetia, special nursing in eye and ear cases, and in tracheotomy. There are fourteen instructors. During the first year the pupils receive ten dollars a month, which is subsequently increased at the discretion of the directors.

✓ The “*Training-School for Nurses*” at *Charity Hospital, New York*. — This school was established by the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction in 1875, and its administrative machinery is much less complicated than that of many of the schools.

The course here covers two years; and the nurses receive an allowance of ten dollars a month for the first, and fifteen dollars a month for the second year. Up to March 1, 1883, one hundred and fifty-six nurses were graduated at this school, the last class numbering seventeen. Prizes are offered for excellence in examination. A library of five hundred volumes, with a reading-room and piano, have been contributed by friends in the past year. The nurses are obliged to live in the hospital building, and to this fact is probably due much of the illness which has prevailed among them at this school. Two of the pupils contracted typhus fever in the past year, but there have been no deaths among them. Upon the authority of the chief of staff, under whose direction the school prospers, it is stated that the death-rate of the hospital has decreased sixty per cent in the past decade, and this he attributes very largely to the excellent work of the trained nurses; and the *morale* of the pauper patients is also very

much improved by their refining influence in the wards. In July, 1883, there are nearly forty pupils in this school.

*The "New-York Hospital Training-School for Nurses."* — As has been shown, the earliest systematic instruction to nurses in this country was given in the New-York Hospital at the close of the last century. The new hospital buildings were opened on March 16, 1877; and in April of that year the board of governors established a training-school for nurses, which opened with nineteen pupils, and which has already given diplomas to sixty-one graduates.

The government of this school is very simple. It is vested in a lady principal, who acts under the direction of a committee of five of the hospital governors. The term of service is only eighteen months, and the pupils are not allowed to do private nursing during this time. Nurses may be required to remain for six months longer if the hospital service is unusually active. The limits of age at present allowed are between twenty-five and thirty-five years, and the average age is about twenty-nine: originally twenty and thirty years were the ages fixed. The school is somewhat restricted in sleeping-accommodations, having rooms for only thirty nurses, and a great number of applicants are refused each year: in 1882 there were one hundred and fifteen applicants. Several new rooms are at present being added to the dormitory, which is in a building adjoining the hospital. The head nurses only are obliged to sleep in rooms opening off from



the wards. During the year a number of lectures and demonstrations are given by the physicians and surgeons of the out-door department of the hospital, and by the members of the house-staff; and practical instruction is furnished at a cooking-school in the city. There is no obstetric service connected with this hospital, but efforts are made to give the graduate nurses facilities in various lying-in institutions. There is no separate endowment-fund for the school, as it is supported entirely by the Society of the New-York Hospital. For the year 1882, the school cost \$5,444. The nurses receive ten dollars a month for the first six months, thirteen dollars for the second, and sixteen dollars for the third period of six months.

They are admitted at any season of the year, but preferably in April or October. The first commencement exercises of the school, to which the public generally were invited, occurred on April 5, 1883, when nine nurses received diplomas, and in addition each received a gold badge appropriately engraved. The graduating class of the year before numbered ten.

Of the whole number of sixty-one graduates, eleven were widowed or divorced before admission, eight have since given up nursing for different causes, and one has died. Of the one hundred and twenty "probationers" who have entered the school, seventeen have failed to graduate through ill health, nine through misconduct, fourteen through ineffi-

ciency, seven through domestic reasons, and one has died.

The school has already supplied four new training-schools with superintendents from among its graduates, besides sending matrons and head nurses to several large hospitals and infirmaries; and high commendation has been bestowed upon the school by the governors and physicians of the hospital and by such of the public as have had practical acquaintance with its graduates. The comfort of the patients, and order and discipline of the wards, have greatly improved since the trained nurses have been admitted to them.

*The "Hartford Hospital Training-School for Nurses," Hartford, Conn.* — This school was organized in 1877 under the hospital management, and no separate account of its expenses is kept. The nurses reside in the hospital during the two-years course, excepting when they are sent into private families as they may be during their second year. The nursing of the entire hospital is in the charge of the school, and the outside demand for nurses is greatly in excess of the supply. Pupils receive ten dollars a month for the first, fourteen dollars a month for the second year, while doing hospital work. Twenty-three trained nurses have already graduated; and in June, 1883, there were seventeen pupils under the lady superintendent.

*The "City Hospital Training-School for Nurses," Boston, Mass.* — This school is now in its sixth year, and it is one

of the largest and most flourishing of the schools. There are at present sixty-two pupils, and a class of twelve was recently graduated. There have been one hundred and fifty-nine "probationers" admitted, and twenty-one have graduated in all. Over five thousand patients are nursed during the year. During 1882, twenty-eight lectures were given by the hospital staff, and the superintendent of the school held one hundred and forty-seven recitation classes. Especial attention is bestowed upon massage and cooking. The nurses are still obliged to live in the hospital building, but strenuous efforts are being made to procure separate accommodations for them. The course of training covers two years; and the pupils receive ten dollars a month during the first, and fourteen dollars a month during the second year. This school has no separate board of directors; but its management lies with a lady superintendent, who is responsible to the superintendent of the hospital and to the hospital trustees.

✓ *The "Washington Training-School for Nurses," Washington, D. C.*—This school, which is not attached to any special hospital, was founded by a society of ladies and gentlemen, which was incorporated for a period of twenty years, commencing on Dec. 14, 1877.

A board of twelve trustees controls the school; and a medical faculty of seven physicians give two lectures a week, illustrated with charts and manikins, and including the subjects

of obstetrics and massage. The first lectures were delivered in October, 1878. This school is not upon a very firm footing, as it has no endowment; and pupils can only be admitted who are able to support themselves while studying. The lectures are free to those who conform to the rules, which are similar to those of other schools. Pupils are expected to remain for two years. During the second year of their course, they are given practical instruction in classes limited to eight, at the Columbia Hospital for Women, and at the Freedmen's Hospital. The first public graduation exercises were held May 24, 1881, when three nurses were graduated. The following year there were twenty-four pupils connected with the school, many of whom do private nursing while continuing their studies. A permanent nurses' home is urgently needed, and efforts are being made to procure one soon.

The public are invited to become members of the society, by subscribing annually the small sum of one dollar.

An art loan-exhibition was recently held, at which nearly a thousand dollars were raised for the school.

*The "Buffalo General Hospital Training-School for Nurses," Buffalo, N. Y.* — This school has never been incorporated; but it is under the management of a "Conference Committee," formed from the hospital board of trustees, an association of lady managers, and several of the hospital physicians.

\* In 1877 considerable fault was found with the old system of nursing, and towards the close of that year a training-school was started. Lectures were first given to the pupils in the spring of 1879; and they have since been given regularly, in a course of twenty-four or more. The training lasts through a period of two years.

Since its inception, forty-five pupils have been admitted to this school, and eleven have been graduated; and they have found ready demand for their services among private cases.

There are twenty-four pupils at present in the school, six of whom are to be graduated at the first public commencement exercises to be held during the first week in July, 1883.

*The "Training-School for Nurses," at the Rochester City Hospital, Rochester, N. Y.* — In September, 1880, this school was inaugurated by the authorities of the Rochester City Hospital, who consist of a board of twenty directors and as many "lady managers."

Over six hundred patients are treated in a year, including a number of confinement cases. The first graduation exercises of this school were held on March 31, 1883, when six pupils were graduated with an elaborate programme of essays, music, etc. There have been one hundred and twenty applications for admission, only twenty-nine of which have been accepted; and there are at present seventeen pupils (July, 1883). Over eighty lectures a year are given

by the medical staff; and, in addition to the ordinary subjects, the nurses are instructed in massage, passive movements, etc., besides being obliged to devote a month exclusively to the diet-kitchen. The limits of age are twenty and thirty-five years. During the latter part of the two-years' course, the nurses are sent out to wait upon private cases. Although the school has considerably increased the expenses of the hospital, it is already conceded to have been of very great benefit to it.

✓ The "*Brooklyn Training-School for Nurses*," at the *Brooklyn Hospital, N. Y.* — This school was organized and commenced work on Nov. 1, 1880. It is directed by a society incorporated by the State, consisting of a board of twenty-seven lady managers who appoint a superintendent and assistant superintendent.

Arrangements have been made with the Brooklyn-Hospital authorities, to afford a two-years' course of training; and the nurses are at present lodged in a portion of a separate building upon the hospital grounds, the private house in which they were at first accommodated having proved too small. When the school was opened, the nurses were allowed the care of certain public wards only; but, as they soon proved their efficiency, they have been given the charge of all the public and private wards, making an average of one hundred and twenty patients. There are at present (July, 1883) seventeen nurses in the school, and nine have received diplomas.

Since ten nurses, with the assistance of four male orderlies, are sufficient to attend to the comparatively small number of patients at the hospital, the nurses are to some extent allowed to serve in other hospitals and in private families, where they receive three dollars a day or sixteen dollars a week, which goes for the support of the school. The nurses receive from the school nine dollars a month during the first, and fifteen dollars a month during the second year.

In 1882 there were thirty nurses connected with the school: and an offer was made by the managers to supply nurses for the Long-Island-College Hospital, Brooklyn, N.Y.; but in the following March this was found inexpedient, and the project was abandoned.

The current expenses of the school amounted, in 1882, to upwards of eight thousand dollars; and they were met by annual subscriptions, by voluntary contributions, and by public entertainments; and thirty-five hundred dollars were earned by the nurses in other hospitals and in private families.

As an inducement to the subscribers to the society, any one contributing five hundred dollars is made a life-member, and allowed to nominate two candidates for the school, whose applications receive the first attention.

Blank testimonials are filled out by the employers of the nurses in private families; and, judging from the character of those already received, the nurses are held in very high esteem.

✓ *The "Illinois Training-School for Nurses," Chicago, Ill.*

—If elaborate organization were the criterion of success in a training-school, certainly this one must rank with the schools at the Bellevue and Mount Sinai Hospitals.

The school is managed by a board of twenty-five lady directors, including a president, vice-president, two secretaries, and a treasurer; under whom are a superintendent, assistant superintendent, and matron or housekeeper. There are no less than eight separate committees, named as follows: the household, hospital, finance, executive, publication, auditing, special auditing, and building. Lest these should need help, there is an advisory committee of fifty gentlemen!

Any one may become a member of the Training-School Association, by payment of ten dollars initiation-fee, and a like sum in annual dues. Up to the present time there have been two hundred and twenty-eight contributors to the school, and in its first year fifteen thousand dollars were subscribed. After six months of preliminary work, arrangements were completed with the authorities of the Cook-County Hospital, for a two-years' course of training; and the school was opened on May 1, 1881, with a class of eight nurses. The first graduation exercises were held in public on June 1, 1883, when six nurses received diplomas. The nurses were at first lodged in a private house not far from the hospital; but as the school rapidly increased, the directors invested in a plat of land, and in November, 1882, commenced the erec-



tion upon it of a commodious four-story brick dormitory, with forty-four separate nurses' bedrooms. The cost was twenty-two thousand dollars, and the building is almost entirely paid for. There are at present (July, 1883) twenty-seven pupils in the school, who work in seven wards, including an obstetric and children's service, and attend an average of one hundred and fifty cases a month. The annual cost of operating the school is eight thousand dollars. The table costs two hundred and fifty dollars a month, and the salaries of superintendent and nurses amount to two thousand dollars in the year. The nurses receive eight dollars a month during the first year; afterwards, twelve dollars a month. When employed outside of the hospital, as they occasionally are during their second year, they earn fifteen and twenty dollars a week. The Cook-County commissioners pay the directors of the school five thousand dollars annually, for the services of the nurses in their hospital. The lady superintendent has entire charge of the nurses' home: she is aided by the assistant superintendent and housekeeper.

From October until May, the pupils receive one lecture a week from a member of the hospital-staff. A large number of letters of encouragement and commendation have already been received from prominent Chicago physicians; and this school, which has advanced so rapidly under Western enthusiasm, bids fair to meet with increasing popularity and success.

*The "Mount Sinai Training-School for Nurses," at the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York.* — This school resembles the Illinois school and that of Bellevue Hospital in its elaborate system of management. There is a society composed of thirteen directors and nine directresses, with president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, besides an advisory board of trustees; and these several functionaries resolve themselves into six different standing committees.

Friends are enticed to subscribe one hundred dollars, and become "life-members;" or ten dollars or three dollars a year, to become respectively "patrons" and "members" of the society. Of patrons there are now over three hundred, and of members two hundred and thirty-one. These persons have the first claim in applying for nurses for their families or friends. The plan of the school was conceived by a benevolent lady in 1879, but the society was not organized and incorporated until March 26, 1881; and the school was actually opened on May 11, 1881, with twelve pupils.

The total number of applicants for admission up to the close of 1882 was one hundred and twenty-two, of whom about one-third have been accepted on probation. At present (July, 1883) there are twenty-six pupils; and in May, 1883, thirteen were graduated.

One of the objects of the school is to afford gratuitous nursing to the poor in their homes; but at present, from want of means, the nurses can only be sent into families where

they can earn the eustomary wages for the school. The income from this source for 1882 was \$1,472.

In the same year the directors of the Mount Sinai Hospital paid the society \$2,058 for the services of the nurses, and \$2,239 more were received from patrons and members. Additional funds are received through legacies and fairs and a "Ladies' Auxiliary Society."

The nurses occupy two neighboring private houses, which are obtained together at an annual rental of \$2,500. In 1882 the total cost of this school was \$10,731, of which \$2,528 (or twenty-eight cents a day *per capita*) were expended for food. The nurses are required to remain for two years; and they receive nine dollars a month for the first, and fifteen dollars a month for the second year. The instruction is thorough and systematic. Semi-weekly lectures are given. Attention is paid to cooking delieaeies, and six weeks obstetrie nursing are offered during the course through the courtesy of other institutions. There is, however, less acute surgery here than in many other of the large hospitals; and the nurses serve less in the male wards here than in most of the schools. Pupils are received as young as twenty years, and there are several Germans and Jewesses among the number. The demand for these nurses to go into private families is already far beyond their number; and, out of ninety-one urgent applications last year, only fifty-one could be supplied.

*The " Training-School for Nurses " at the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y.* — On June 1, 1882, nurses connected with the Brooklyn Training-School were allowed, during their course, to serve some of the patients in this hospital; but on the following March the authorities of the hospital decided to establish an independent training-school. The instructors in the Long Island Medical College have instituted a thorough course of lectures, two each week; and with the assistance of the house-staff and an experienced lady superintendent, the school has opened very successfully with a class of ten nurses. The remuneration is graduated at from nine dollars to twenty dollars a month. It is expected soon that families can be supplied from this school. The nurses occupy a rented house in the vicinity of the hospital at present, but it is designed to erect a new wing to the hospital itself for their accommodation.

*The " Mary Fletcher Hospital Training-School for Nurses," Burlington, Vt.* — This school was contemplated by the founder of the hospital, but it was not set in operation until May 2, 1882.

In addition to the ordinary pupils who are examined, and receive diplomas at the end of their course of two years of study, as in other schools, a certain number of ladies not intending to practise nursing are allowed to attend the lectures and demonstrations, upon payment of a fee of ten dollars for the course. They are not examined, and in

lieu of diplomas receive certificates testifying their attendance.

There are five lecturers, four of whom are professors in the University of Vermont ; and they each give eight lectures.

The school is under the patronage of the directors of the hospital ; and from these a committee of three, all physicians, are the managers. At the opening course of lectures, seventeen pupils, and five ladies not wishing to become professional nurses, attended. The hospital is quite small, and the pupils secure board and lodging where they can in the neighborhood.

l The "*Training-School for Nurses*," at the *Orange Memorial Hospital, Orange, N. J.* — This school was opened on July 1, 1882, with a class of five pupils, and a supervising nurse who was trained at the school in New Haven. An association of fifty members each contribute twelve dollars annually for the support of the school, and additional funds are derived through other subscriptions and through entertainments. The school is directed by a committee of ten ladies, members of the board of managers of the hospital.

Pupils are admitted at any season, and they are accepted at the far too early age of twenty. They are obliged to remain for two years if their conduct is satisfactory. For the first three months they receive no pay, for the next three months they get six dollars a month, and afterwards twelve dollars a month. As the hospital treats less than one hun-

dred and fifty patients in a year, the pupils do a good deal of outside nursing among the poor, especially in midwifery cases; and, while so serving, they are obliged to make daily reports to their principal.

*The "Training-School for Nurses," at the Charity Hospital, New Orleans, La.* — A school was founded in this hospital in 1882, under the superintendence of a graduate of one of the principal Northern schools; and, although still small, it is making fair progress.

*The "Cincinnati Training-School for Nurses," at the College of Medicine and Surgery, Cincinnati, O.* — This school, with the one at the Long Island College Hospital, are in direct connection with a medical college as well as hospital. The first term was opened on March 26, 1883; but preliminary steps were taken in the previous autumn. There are ten lecturers, who instruct the nurses. A larger number of pupils were present at first than was anticipated, and the school gives every promise of success.

✓ *The "Charleston Training-School for Nurses," at the City Hospital, Charleston, S. C.* — A school is being established at the Charleston City Hospital, formerly the Roper Hospital and Medical College, by its trustees. A very capable principal and vice-principal have been selected from among the graduates of the New-York Hospital Training-School.

The State Superintendent of Education and the mayor of the city are among the trustees. This school is to be opened

upon essentially the same plan as the others ; and five dollars a month will be paid during the first, and ten dollars a month during the second year. There are several pupils already in the school, and it is expected soon to have a class of sixteen or eighteen.

✓ The “ *Training-School for Nurses*,” at the *Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md.* — The following is copied from the letter of instruction which Johns Hopkins left to his trustees : “ I desire you to establish, in connection with the [Johns Hopkins] Hospital, a training-school for female nurses. This provision will secure the services of women competent to care for the sick in the hospital-wards, and will enable you to benefit the whole community by supplying it with a class of trained and experienced nurses.” In accordance with this direction, a large separate building for nurses has already been erected upon the hospital-grounds ; and no pains will be spared to establish there one of the most efficient schools in the country, as soon as the hospital is opened.

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The “ Board of Guardians of the Poor,” in Philadelphia, Penn., are contemplating establishing a training-school for nurses in connection with the hospital department of the Blockley Almshouse, where there are eight hundred patients.

Training-schools for nurses are expected soon to be organized at the Michigan College Hospital at Detroit, Mich., and at the Cincinnati Hospital, O.

At a meeting of the American Medical Association at Cleveland, O., on June 7, 1883, the following resolution, offered by Dr. S. D. Gross of Philadelphia, was passed:—

“*Whereas*, Good nursing is of paramount importance, and whereas the subject is one which strongly addresses itself to the common sense of every intelligent member of the society: therefore be it

“*Resolved*, That this association, fully recognizing the importance of the subject, respectfully recommends the establishment, in every county or town, of schools or societies for the efficient training of nurses, male and female, by lectures and practical instruction to be given by competent medical men, members of county societies if possible, either gratuitously or at such reasonable rates as not to debar the poor from availing themselves of this benefit.”

At the instigation of Dr. Gross, similar action was also taken by this association in 1868.

### SCHOOLS OF MIDWIFERY.

There are several excellent schools of midwifery, where trained nurses who have not had experience in labor-cases can supplement their training.

The “*Philadelphia Lying-in Charity and Nurse School.*”—This institution was chartered May 7, 1832, for the purpose



of aiding women in labor at their own homes. It is controlled by a board of appropriate officers, and eighteen managers.

A "Nurse Charity," having a similar object, was founded in 1838, with eight pupils; and this was merged into the "Nurse School of the Lying-in Charity" in 1840. In 1863 the charter of the institution was amended, and provision was made for a separate home for the pupil-nurses; and subsequently a small hospital was established. There are at present ten pupil-nurses connected with the institution; five were graduated in 1882; and in this year there were three hundred and ten applications for nurses to care for outside cases, of which only one hundred and seventy could possibly be supplied.

The society is supported by voluntary contributions and legacies.

The "*Missouri School of Midwifery*," *St. Louis, Mo.*, was opened in 1875 with a corps of three instructors.

One hundred and eighty pupils have been received in all since that time, and of these one hundred and seventy-three have been graduated. There are at present sixteen pupils.

The "*New-York State School for Training Nurses*," at the *Homœopathic Maternity in Brooklyn, N. Y.*, was opened in January, 1873, with six instructors. In the past ten years fifty-four nurses have been graduated, and there are at pres-

ent seven pupils. The course lasts only one year, and the instruction is chiefly regarding the nursing of parturient women and the care of infants.

*The "College of Midwifery," New-York City.* — This school has been duly incorporated to give practical and scientific instruction to midwives. The first session opened on April 9, 1883, with eleven students in attendance. Instruction is given in English, German, French, or Spanish, in the form of lectures, demonstrations, and recitations, through a period of three months; and this is supplemented by two months of practical work. Four lectures a week are given on the subjects of anatomy, physiology, midwifery, and puerperal diseases, and the care of infants. At the conclusion of the session, thorough examinations are held. The fee for the full course is, with diploma, one hundred and five dollars. There are a faculty of six lecturers, and a board of eleven supervisors, of whom the mayor is chairman; and negotiations are now being made to open a maternity hospital in connection with the college, in the wards of which the pupils will be required to nurse for three months.

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After graduating, the trained nurses usually leave their addresses at their school, so that applications can be made

there for them. But in Philadelphia and Boston central "Directories for Nurses" have been established, which are intended to include the names of all the nurses (male and female) in the city, who have been duly recommended by physicians, or who hold diplomas from training-schools. Similar directories are contemplated for Buffalo, Washington, Cincinnati, and San Francisco.

At the Boston Directory, the annual fee is three dollars for registration; and each nurse is furnished with blanks to be filled out with her name, age, residence, experience, date of diploma, and statements as to wages desired, preference for any special branch of nursing, and as to whether the nurse is willing to take her meals in the kitchen or not, etc. Blanks are also sent to the family and to the physician, to be filled out with statements regarding the nurse's temper, neatness, capability, diligence, etc. This information, when returned, is examined, indexed, and filed away. Any faults are at once investigated.

This directory was opened in November, 1879, at the Boston Medical Library, with a roll of sixty nurses; and in the second year there were three hundred and sixty-six female nurses registered, many of them holding training-school diplomas. On June 13, 1883, there were in all five hundred and twenty-eight nurses registered. The nurses are sent all over New England from this directory, and employment is readily found for them. All fees except for registration are paid

by applicants, and no percentage of earnings is taken from the nurses.

The Philadelphia Directory for Nurses was formally opened on May 15, 1882, under the auspices of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; and at the close of the first seven months, one hundred and eighty-seven female nurses were registered, thirty-five of whom were graduates of training-schools; and the number of calls for nurses has averaged fifty a month.

Many grave emergencies are met with great promptness, and the nurses are often engaged from out of town by telegraph; and the directory, for a small extra fee, undertakes the work of despatching them.

The fees and purposes of this directory are identical with the one in Boston; and neither of these directories is as yet self-supporting, although it is anticipated that they will soon become so.

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A trained nurse is often capable of doing the work of two or three women who have not had her advantages; and she always has her own reputation for excellence to preserve, which is no small stimulus. It is truly said that "there are certain cases in which a patient's recovery or death will depend quite as much on the qualifications of the nurse as

of the physician.” The over-anxious family and friends are sometimes the poorest attendants a patient can have in serious illness.

It has already been proved that the death-rate of large hospitals has markedly decreased since the adoption of the new nursing-system. And so long as the trained nurses are content to seek perfection in nursing merely, leaving criticism of medical men, and the slightest attempt at interference with their ways, alone; so long as they study only the greatest comfort of their patients, and cultivate the strictest obedience to the doctor’s wishes, — they will continue to succeed. They will find, in the occupation of ministering to human suffering and misery, rare opportunities for the study of character, the cultivation of most varied talents, and for the exercise of the noblest virtues; and they will reap the reward of doing thoroughly what is appropriately a woman’s work.



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